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Online Exclusive

‘Birds of Paradise’ movie review

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POLICE BLOTTER

The police blotter combines information reported by the Chico and University police departments

University Police

Call Type: Theft
Thursday, Feb. 6th 3:09 p.m. 1206 W Sacramento Ave.

A black pixie type bike and bike lock were stolen at University Village. The bike is unregistered and the serial number is unknown.

Call Type: Welfare Check
Friday, Feb. 7th 10:35 p.m. Normal Ave.

A subject said she had been jumped by 50 people downtown near Jack and The Box. She reported while out of breath and sustained no injuries.

Call Type: Medical Aid
Friday, Feb. 7th 10:48 p.m. Legion Ave.

A female fell in and out of consciousness while vomiting. The subject said her heart hurts before being transported by medical personnel.

Call Type: Vandalism
Sunday, Feb. 9th 5:39 p.m. W Sacramento Ave.

Subject reported that an ex-boyfriend keyed their car. There was a smiley face across the passenger side. Incident occurred sometime between 12:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m.

Chico Police

Call Type: DUI Alcohol
Friday, Feb. 7th 10:41 p.m. 698 Cherry St./W 7th St.

A 22-year-old was arrested for driving under the influence. His blood-alcohol content was 0.08 percent. The bail is set for \$10,000.

Call Type: Fight/Challenge
Saturday, Feb. 8th 2:08 a.m. 316 W 2nd St.

A 21-year-old was arrested for fighting in a public place. His bail has been set at \$3,000.

Call Type: Possession of Controlled Narcotic Substance
Saturday, Feb. 9th 6:47 p.m. 1016 W Sacramento Ave.

A 20-year-old was arrested for possessing illegal narcotic substances. His bail is set for \$3,000.

Call Type: Disorderly Conduct: Alcohol
Sunday, Feb. 9th 3:03 a.m. 1077 Running Springs Cir.

A 32-year-old woman was arrested for unruly behavior while under the influence.

Protesters call for the end of needle distribution

Kimberly Morales
Staff Writer

On Feb. 4, protestors gathered on the steps of the Chico City Council Chambers holding signs and blocking roads. The protestors — mostly business owners and other community members — stepped out to participate in a cause focused on banning city needle distribution.

Waiting for the city council meeting to commence, the body began chanting in numbers, “Give us our town back!”

For protestors, the inspiration to take to the council chambers began months ago. Frustration emerged for several business owners and residents following the heightened population of homeless in Chico.

In an attempt to reduce the numbers, Chico City Council voted to reinstate the ‘sit-lie ordinance’, which inhibited anyone from sitting or laying on walkways and business real-estate areas from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Problems emerged again last October that concerned more than just entrepreneurs when a Chico needle exchange program was approved in the attempt to prevent blood-borne diseases and injection-related injury. Protestors believed that the results did not comply with the intended purpose, but increased the rate of crime and violence in the city instead.

For Tuesday’s agenda, a request from Mayor Randall Stone and Vice Mayor Alex Brown to agendize a discussion to rescind the ‘sit-lie ordinance’ as well as amend the

Offenses Against Public Property Ordinance. The ordinance, adopted in 2015, aimed to protect public health and safety by maintaining a clean and sanitary city. For many challengers, this ordinance crossed the line. While these discussions had been continued from previous council meetings, the halls of the council chambers were filled with the neon green shirts of the sample of protestors who signed up to give their public opinion at the meeting.

These concerns are continuing to progress through city council and the state. While the discussion carries on, unease continues.

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Corrections

This space is used to make corrections or retractions to stories in previous editions. Please email corrections to orionmanagingeditor@gmail.com.

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Instructionally Related Activities

Chico State celebrates black gospel for Black History Month

Melissa Joseph
Managing Editor

Angelic voices rang throughout the Performing Arts Center as a celebration of black gospel music took place Friday afternoon.

The Rev. Robert Morton from the Celebration Gospel Choir of Chico, originating from Bethel AME Church, warmed up the audience with popular tunes such as the “Cheers” theme song and “The Sacred and Secular” by Gladys Knight. Morton encouraged the audience to sing unapologetically with his bellowing voice and set the tone for the rest of the service.

“ You don’t need a hymn book, all you need is your heart to sing.”

ROBERT MORTON | Reverend

“You don’t need a hymn book, all you need is the heart to sing,” Morton said.

This much proved true as dozens in the auditorium sang along to unbeknownst songs with the satin-clad choir.

The choir performed numerous songs ranging from “Psalm 8” by Richard Smallwood to Chance the Rapper’s “Sunday Candy.” By the end of the night, the audience was glowing and the choir’s creeping smiles had formed into full blown grins.

Morton reminded the auditorium of the importance of togetherness and the perseverance

of black lives growing from their formidable pasts through gospel music.

Former journalism professor from Chico State, Lori Voorhees, participated in the choir alongside numerous students and other members of the church, sharing in their praise.

“I think gospel music is life changing for everyone,” Voorhees said. “I have health issues and when I’m singing I only focus on the message that I’m trying to send to the audience. It’s a blessing.”

Many members of the choir felt similarly, expressing their appreciation for the communal aspect of gospel music and the way it enveloped their lives.

“I’m not religious myself, but it’s such a cool environment with a friendly community, so that’s my favorite part of this experience,” said pianist Webster Moore.

Whether a singer or part of the band, all of the members of the choir seem to share one thing: their love for music. The performance was a prime example of the way music draws people of all different backgrounds together, a trait Chico State has been yearning for in past years.

“It’s always important for us to help find ways for students to connect and music would be a fabulous way to create that connection,” President Gayle Hutchinson said following the performance.

In honor of Black History Month, Chico State is hosting numerous inclusive and diverse events that can be found on the Chico State calendar and flyers around campus.

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PHOTOS BY | ANGEL ORTEGA
Reverend Robert Morton began the celebration by teaching the audience about the history and fundamentals of gospel music.



PHOTOS BY | Dayanna Negrete
(Left) Here is an individual John Slater who came out to support Crucial Times event. (Right) Here is a photo of Erin Lazardo who is performing in the Crucial Times event

Mayhem, music and moments in time

Members of the Crucial Times Photography Collective gathered at 1078 Studio in Chico to showcase their most recent

Kirstin Joyce
Reporter

The Crucial Times Photography Collective is a partnership of professional photographers, each with their own individualistic styles, who challenge themselves to work on a single chosen topic. They then showcase their work together at different venues and compile them into books for purchase.

“We all individually shoot and then come together to collaborate for shows or books or what have you,” photographer California Travis said. “It’s just a good way to share resources, equipment and ideas.”

The theme for this volume, the third one released since the collective formed in 2017, was strictly music photography.

Photos were hung on clothing lines throughout the studio, which made for an excellent addition to the space’s raw, industrial style. The majority of images depicted bands and singers in the midst of performances, focusing on emotional and high energy moments.

“If you look at all the photos, most of the bands are pretty intense and bands like that are really easy to get good photos of because they’re just so expressive,” Travis said. “That’s why it’s a lot of punk shows and goth shows, interesting people and interesting expressions, it makes for an interesting photo.”

Despite having the same topic in mind, unique styles of the different photographers still shined through with some photos highlighting only inanimate objects, others shot purely in black and white and some featuring images with pops of colorful blurred lights.



Collective member and Chico State alumnus Miles Claibourn explained that the goal of forming the collective was aimed around community engagement.

“Every one of these (photos) are someone either directly within our community or someone from our peer group up and down the West Coast,” Claibourn said. “That’s the biggest component, to have that and to meet as a group. If not, we would just hang out on Instagram.”

Most members of the collective are Chico residents, who met each other through shooting at local shows and spaces.

In addition to the photo gallery, there were a variety of bands set to perform during the event. Some were familiar faces from the photographs, as a few of the performers were actually collective members as well.

The different musical styles drew

out an interesting crowd, with the opening act by “Grey Loom” adding an otherworldly feel to the studio. As singer Erin Lazardo belted out echoey and breathless notes against a reflective pink background, the entire venue seemed to stop in time for a bit.

As the night continued, more people entered the studio as deathrock bands “Desperate Hell” and “End//Game” took to the stage. It quickly became a full fledged party, complete with ear-splittingly loud guitar solos and a slightly buzzed, but energetic audience.

The Crucial Times collective has their second and third volumes for sale, with free standing prints also available for purchase. You can check out their work on Instagram and Facebook at “Crucial Times Photography.”

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Justin Briggs shatters Chico State's all-time block record



PHOTOS BY | HANA BEATY

Justin Briggs looking up at the basket and preparing himself to take the shot.

Arrow VanAbrams

Staff Writer

Justin Briggs, the 6-foot-10 senior center of the men's basketball team, broke Chico State's all-time block record last week with 154 total blocks. Briggs is heading into his last few months of being a Wildcat, so he might as well go out with a bang! While his playing days in Chico are numbered, he has no plans of ending his basketball journey anytime soon.

“Great guy to coach, great student. He really optimizes what it means to be a student-athlete.”

GREG CLINK | Coach

With a month left in the regular season, Briggs, along with his teammates, have their collective focus on finishing out the regular season strong and attempting to secure a trophy in the playoffs. Although, being the diligent and well-prepared young man he is, Briggs has long term goals planted in the back of his mind. His dreams of making a career out of the game he loves have helped him get where he is now and become a record-holder. “I’ve loved the game since I was young. Being able to play as long as I can is one of my passions...that’s what I’m trying to do,” Briggs said. Once he graduates, Briggs plans on moving back to his hometown of Sacramento. There, he’ll hire an agent and train hard to stay in top shape. He plans on going to various exposure camps while having his agent reach out to professional teams who may have a spot for an athlete like him. Briggs wants to head into this phase of his life with an open mind. He has mentioned an interest in playing overseas, which he said with a lighthearted demeanor “would be fun.” Chico State men's basketball head coach Greg Clink has seen Briggs go from redshirting his first season to becoming a polished and feared post-presence for his squad. Clink believes that professional teams will be very interested in acquiring Briggs due to his

size and athleticism. “He moves so well for a guy his size. He’s probably our fastest guy on the team,” Clink said. Briggs has made a name for himself during his time at Chico State as an elite shot blocker. He broke the single season block record, with 66 his freshman year, and he now holds the school’s all-time record. “He’s just got a great knack for it (blocking shots). He’s got a great understanding of different moves guys have to get to the basket,” assistant coach Mark Darnall said. Coach Darnall also expressed how much of a pleasure it was being able to see Briggs come into his own as a player and a leader. Darnall explained how funny of a guy Briggs is to be around and how his vibrant personality makes him a great “glue-guy” for the team. “He’s such a big piece of our team as far as our voice, our culture and our camaraderie,” Darnall said. Briggs’ college basketball career wasn’t always smooth sailing. His success this year is a testament to his work ethic and competitive drive, as he is coming off a season cut short due to a serious injury. After playing just 13 games last year, Briggs suffered a torn ACL and MCL. This type of injury, especially

“It’s crazy playing college basketball and being able to break records... I’m just enjoying the process so far.”

JUSTIN BRIGGS | Athlete

the ACL, is notorious for keeping athletes out for extended periods of time and even preventing them from being elite after they recover. This doesn’t seem to be the case for Briggs, as he got back on the court just eight months after his surgery and is now approaching the one year mark since the injury. Torn ligaments have proven to be no match for Briggs’ drive to play basketball. “Now that I’m getting close to my one year mark, I’m starting to feel like I’m close to picking up where I left off,” Briggs said. Since elementary school, he’s always held a love for the game. He has had the size and skills to excel

at every level. He began to drastically improve in high school and started getting recruited during his junior year. Among the schools eager to add this talent to their roster, Chico State triumphed. “It’s crazy playing college basketball and being able to break records...I’m just enjoying the process so far,” Briggs said. Briggs feels like he made the right choice between schools, as he has excelled on and off the court at Chico State. He’s a stellar student, majoring in business management with a minor in marketing. He loves to learn and is curious by nature. “Great guy to coach, great student. He really optimizes what it means to be a student-athlete,” coach Clink said. Briggs’ infatuation to be challenged has proven to be a great asset for him. He started his academic career at Chico State solely as a business management major and picked up the marketing minor after taking just one marketing class, which he loved. While his current career focus is on basketball, his business education will be there for him to pursue. Committing to his studies and being an elite athlete adds a lot to his plate, but he wouldn’t have it any other way. “I need to stay busy. I’m one of those guys that needs to be doing something and needs to keep my mind going,” Briggs said. Briggs’ college experience at Chico State has been a tremendous success, as the record book reflects. He looks forward to whatever is in store and looks to take with him the same passion and diligence he cultivated in the small town of Chico. He reminisces on his time spent here as a Wildcat. “[Chico has] been my home for the past few years. I love being here. I love the community, the coaches, my teammates, just the people in general and this town,” Briggs said.

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As Vannessa Holland tries to get the ball she losses her balance and goes down with the ball.

PHOTO BY | HANA BEATY

Wildcats can't claw back during overtime

Alex Martin

Staff Writer

Women's basketball took on the UC San Diego Tritons on Thursday in Acker Gym, only to lose the game in overtime. The score finalized at 61-69 and the Tritons came out victorious. Guard Myli Martinez was the

Wildcats' leading scorer of the night with 18 points. Even this, however, was not a big enough point boost to defeat the Tritons. “They were just playing off me, and I know Maddy is our leading scorer. I knew they were going to be all up on her,” Martinez said. When the game reached halftime, the Wildcats were down by just one point. Guard Shay

Stark mentioned the adjustments her team made to get back on track during the second half of the game. “We just stuck with our game plan. We wanted to be tenacious and very active on the defensive side,” Stark said. “Make them earn every basket that they got. I think that’s what we did throughout the whole game.”

Not to mention, during the second half of the game, forward Haley Ison exited the game due to an injury. Her teammate Mikaila Wegenke commented on the injury to Ison. “She landed on someone’s foot I’m pretty sure,” Wegenke said. “She’s been having ankle issues this past week, so it was taped. They (athletic trainers) said it was more muscle related. Hopefully she’ll be good by Saturday.” As the game entered the fourth quarter, the Wildcats were trailing by just three points. They battled fiercely throughout the last quarter, as they scored 13 points and forced the game into overtime. Entering overtime, the Wildcats played hard but did not score a single basket throughout the five minute quarter. Despite a frustrating overtime for the Wildcats, many positives came out of the night. “Overall as a team, I feel like we put in a very good 45 minute effort all the way around,” Stark said. “Our offense did what we wanted to as far as getting the ball inside and then kicking it back out. On the defensive side, we just stuck to our game plan. We made them earn their shots.”

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Wildcats sweep Sunbirds in home series

Matthew Wreden
Staff Writer

In the bottom of the ninth inning in game two of the double header, Willie Lajoie stepped up to bat in a crucial situation for the Wildcats. Pressure was on. Lajoie drilled one up the left-center gap right past the shortstop for a Nettleton Stadium walk-off to complete a three-game sweep over the Fresno Pacific Sunbirds.

“I read the scouting report before, and I knew he (the Sunbirds’ pitcher) liked to throw offspeed with runners in scoring position,” Lajoie said. “He threw a first pitch fastball, and I was a little confused. He threw me a slider, and I got a little in front of it and it barely got by the shortstop.”

Game 1

Game one of the double header was a hitter’s dream. There were 31 combined runs, 34 combined hits and nine overall errors. Only one inning occurred where one of the teams did not put up at least one run.

The Wildcats were swinging hot bats from the start to put the game out of reach by the fourth inning. They had a 9-0 lead after four. JT Navarro, Turner Olson and Cody Wissler all drove in runs early in the game.

Left-handed pitcher Grant Larson got the call to start and had a solid day on the mound. Larson went five innings and allowed four runs, all of which were scored in the fifth inning.

“I pitched alright,” Larson said. “We had the offense real early, so it took a lot of weight off my shoulders. I just had to keep pounding the zone.”

It wasn’t until the fourth inning when the Sunbirds’ bats started to

wake up. They put up 11 runs in three innings to make the score 16-11.

Turner Olson then blasted a home run in the bottom of the eighth inning, and the Wildcats put up a ridiculous 21 runs in the first game. The final score of game one was 21-11.

Game 2

This was a much quicker game with both pitchers executing well. Braeden Gowdy was on the mound for the Wildcats. The first run of the game came courtesy of the Sunbirds’ Hayden Hayes in the fifth inning.

The Wildcats then came up in the sixth inning and tied it up with an RBI double from Eddie Zavala. The team was fired up.

Chico State escaped a nightmare in the eighth inning by getting out of a bases loaded jam thanks to two strikeouts and one pop-out.

Then, Lajoie stepped up to bat in the bottom of the ninth and hit his walk-off to complete the sweep. The Wildcats won the second game 2-1. Over three games, the Wildcats put up 37 runs while allowing 20 runs.

“It was awesome,” Lajoie said. “It’s always great to get a sweep at home, especially against those guys. I love beating those guys.”

The Wildcats are on a roll at home, and they will be back at Nettleton Stadium Feb. 14 at 2 p.m. to take on San Francisco State.

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The wildcats cheered their teammates on.

PHOTOS BY | JULIAN MENDOZA



(Left) #8 Maddy Johnson slides into home plate(Right) #1 Angel Lopez throws a quick pass to her teammate.



Wildcats complete sweep over the Otters

Arrow VanAbrams
Staff Writer

The Chico State softball team won both games of their doubleheader against California State University, Monterey Bay on Feb. 8 to sweep their first home series of the year.

The Wildcats showed flashes of brilliance offensively in both games. They won game one by a score of 4-3 and dominated game two 9-0 in only five innings. Both games featured clutch RBIs, two-out rallies and aggressive base running.

The Otters showed up to University Softball Field eager to even out the series after dropping both games of the prior doubleheader. The Otter dugout was exploding with chants and cheerful yelling all throughout the day. Unfortunately for the Otters, the Wildcats’ cool and calm demeanor shut down any hope of a victory in either game.

“ We haven’t let the pressure get to us...We were really aggressive, especially today, because we have seen these pitchers already

DREW RODRIGUEZ | Athlete

Game one of the doubleheader featured Brooke Larsen in the circle for the Wildcats. This is rarely a

good sign for opposing teams, as Larsen has started this year on a tear. Larsen came into the day with a 4-0 record, .60 ERA, and 46 strikeouts in 30 innings pitched.

The first game began slowly offensively for both teams. It was a pitchers’ duel throughout the first four innings. Larsen overwhelmed the Otters with her velocity. She consistently utilized her rise-ball, which caused the Otters batters to swing out of their shoes at balls high outside the strike zone. Starting pitcher for CSU Monterey Bay, Cassie Gasper, found early success too, especially with her change-up which froze Wildcat hitters.

Gasper shined throughout the first four innings, allowing only one run in the bottom of the third inning off an error. This was followed by Kristin Worley’s best Houdini impression, escaping a pickle for a Wildcat 1-0 lead.

“You just have to trust yourself that you’re going to get out of those situations. For me, it worked out,” Worley said regarding her successful pickle escape.

Gasper’s luck ran out in the fifth inning, allowing three runs off big RBI hits from freshmen Drew Rodriguez and Alani Nguyen, extending the Wildcats’ lead to 4-0.

“We haven’t let the pressure get to us...We were really aggressive, especially today, because we have seen these pitchers already,” Rodriguez said.

The Otters brought their intensity up in the sixth inning. They racked up hits on back to back Larsen pitches in the second and third at-bat of the inning. Then, a double to right-center brought in their first run of the game. With runners in scoring position, a costly error off a bunt drove in two runs, making the score 4-3. The tying run on second base, Otters infielder Jamie Sugimoto cracked a line drive to center field and sent the runner on second barreling

home. However, Wildcats’ center fielder Virgie Robello threw a bullet home for the out and possible game-saving play.

The Otters faced more trouble in the seventh inning as Larsen loaded the bases with two outs. Left-handed pitcher Sam Mulock came in for relief and got the save. She struck out the lone batter she faced and ended the game.

Game two of the doubleheader was far more lopsided. Mulock followed her save in the first game with a dominant win in the second. She hurled a complete game shut-out, allowing only two hits and striking out six throughout the five-inning game.

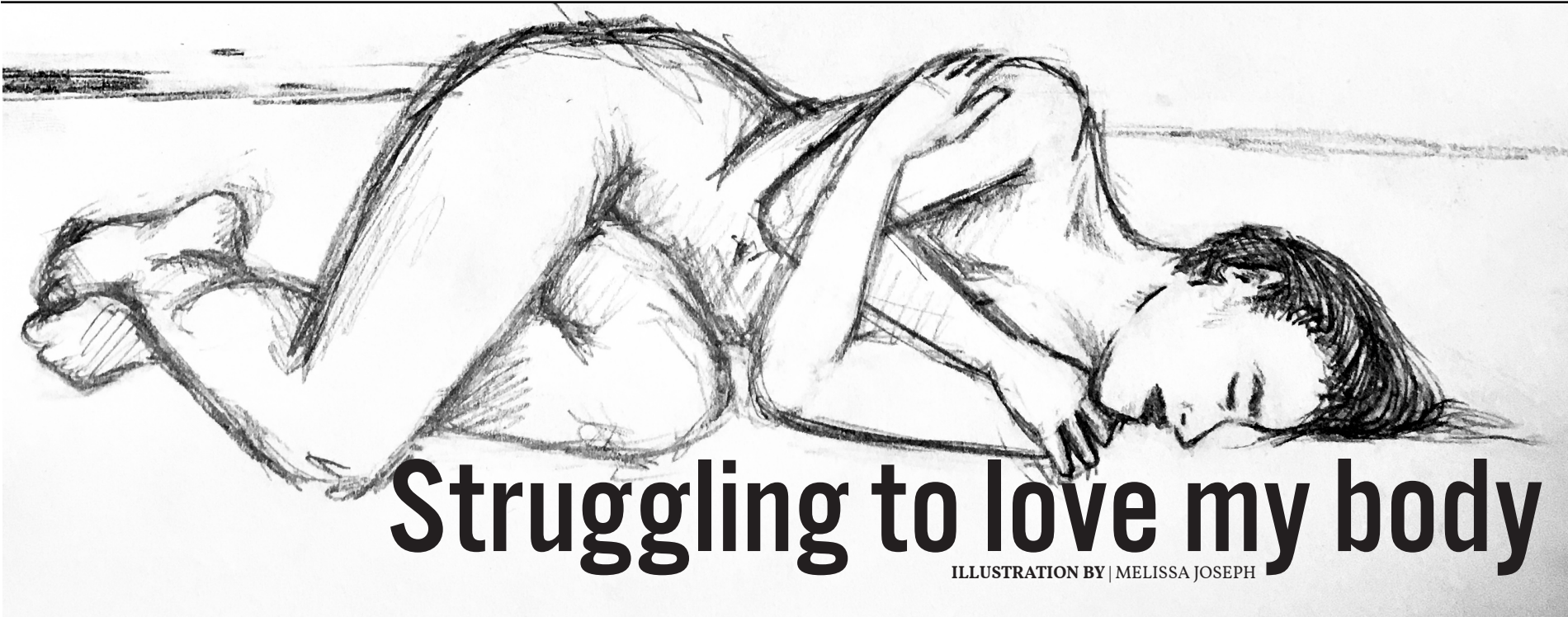
Unlike the first game, Chico State started swinging hot right of the bat in game two. Batters were shelling Otters’ starting pitcher Hayley Fein as she gave up nine earned runs in only 3.2 innings pitched. The Wildcats got ahead early, scoring two runs in the first inning off big hits from Worley and Rodriguez, a costly error by Otters infielders and a bases loaded hit-by-pitch on Reilani Peleti.

“It (the early lead) definitely takes pressure off of me because I can relax a little bit,” Mulock said.

After a scoreless second inning, the Wildcats came back for more in the third inning. The team scored seven runs off of six hits, extending the lead to 9-0 and effectively putting the game out of reach for CSU Monterey Bay.

In attempt to stay undefeated, Chico State will hit the road to face Humboldt State in a four-game series starting Feb. 21.

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Erin Holve
Staff Writer

During winter break I stumbled upon a video while aimlessly scrolling through social media. It was a gathering of four news anchors discussing a new report that body acceptance, also known as body positivity, was on the rise in young adults.

To me this was amazing news. I've perpetually struggled with my weight. Hating myself on the bad days, where a voice in my head suggests I'm undesirable. On the good days I saunter around in my boots not caring what anyone else thinks.

But then the news anchors did something I wasn't expecting. They mocked the idea of young people accepting their varying bodies, highlighting health issues as the reason for this reaction.

But is health truly the reason? Does thinness and health go hand-in-hand? Does loving your body mean you are a health risk?

A report in The Archives of Internal Medicine indicates that there is growing evidence that weight is not an accurate indicator of health. The report, The Obese Without Cardiometabolic

Risk Factor Clustering and the Normal Weight With Cardiometabolic Risk Factor Clustering, collected data from a sample of 5,400 adults.

Half of overweight people and one-third of obese people are metabolically healthy. Despite their excess pounds, many overweight and obese adults have healthy levels of good cholesterol, blood pressure and other associated risks for heart disease.

The study showed that one out of four lean people, those who fall into the "healthy" weight range, actually have at least two cardiovascular risk factors typically associated with obesity. This doesn't mean that all overweight people are healthy, it is just suggesting that weight isn't a clear indicator of health.

Aside from weight, body acceptance isn't only about size. Body acceptance activists have spoken openly about the many ways that our bodies are judged. These judgments are based on unrealistic beauty standards, beauty that they see as a construct of society.

They posit that this social construct should not infringe upon one's ability to feel confidence or self-worth. To love oneself while accepting their physical traits, both genetically given and environmentally gained.

This increase in body acceptance shouldn't be mocked when you look at previous data. Heather R. Gallivan, a psychologist at the Melrose Center for eating disorders, says about 80% of women don't like how they look. Thirty-four percent of men are dissatisfied with their bodies. Approximately 50% of Americans aren't happy with their weight.

These statistics are likely only capturing a heteronormative view of body acceptance, leaving out a huge demographic who deal with societal pressures at higher levels.

"Higher body dissatisfaction is associated with a poorer quality of life, psychological distress and the risk of unhealthy eating behaviours and eating disorders," stated The Mental Health Organization.

Many factors contribute to this dissatisfaction.

This includes the ways your friends and peers speak about bodies and appearance and being bombarded by images of idealised or unrealistic bodies through all forms of media, especially those on social media — along with the pressure to look a certain way or match the "ideal" body type set by society.

Young adults, especially college

students, are the most susceptible to body and appearance dissatisfaction. Statistics are starting to show that women aren't the only ones affected by this issue. Men are starting to catch up with women concerning how they feel about their bodies.

What can we do? If you are a Chico State student you have access to the Counseling Center on campus. It's a safe space to discuss a range of issues including a lack of self-love for your body and appearance.

If you're not ready for counseling then try getting involved during Love Every Body Week starting Feb. 24 and ending Feb. 28. There will be a mirror friendly event, an eating disorder panel discussion and a presentation on binge eating.

All events are free and open to the public. If you've achieved body positivity already, why not get a friend or peer to go so you can help others gain their self-love.

Let's prove those news anchors wrong by demonstrating that body positivity is what society should be working toward.

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Sex is more than one position

Jacob Collier
Chief Design

Sex is something that has endless varieties. Unfortunately, most of us tend to limit ourselves to one flavor of it instead of sampling all that is available.

Many people have preconceived notions of the right or wrong ways to have sex. But as long as what happens behind closed doors is safe and consensual, everything should be on the menu.

Sex, usually through the eyes of those who take it too seriously, is the basic form of procreation with the intent for only pleasure. Sometimes, the goal is to actually reproduce. Other times, it's just to orgasm or feel satisfied with either yourself or your partner. This idea is similar to going to your job only for the purpose of socializing with friends when there is a much better time and place.

Everybody has different preferences when it comes to pleasure and some can feel demonized for what makes them feel good. People should be able to enjoy multiple partners, a single partner or even the absence of a partner altogether without feeling judged by society.

The possibilities of sex are full of so much variety. It's similar to stepping into a Baskin-Robbins, knowing you came in to get the pistachio almond ice cream, but seeing everyone else order vanilla.

It can be hard to fully enjoy sex when you only allow yourself to experience what everyone else labels as normal. For some, achieving "normal" sex is satisfying, where others want to fully explore it. For anyone who has ever ventured into the scary world of the internet, I challenge you to explore a pornography website and witness the never-ending lists of genres and categories that are established.

Other than just the physical acts of sex, there are further stigmas that hold people back from fully

enjoying sexual activities. Not only do we live in a society that limits our exploration of sex, we like to label people who enjoy it too much.

Women are called sluts and shamed for any amount of sexual interest that is deemed excessive. Meanwhile, men achieve manhood with each notch in their bed posts. The notch count to be praised as gladiatorial conquests while disregarding that quantity has nothing to do with quality. One man's satisfaction is another woman's bitter disappointment. When in truth neither side should be so blind as to focus on these ancient and simplistic descriptors.

The goal is not to shame those around us or to expect normality from the people we choose to spend these intimate moments with. When we are seeking pleasure, especially when seeking it with another person, we need to be open to the wants and needs of both involved.

If you enjoy sex for the pleasure of it, then it's on you to make it that way and keep communication with your partners open. I am not saying we should all tackle sex bound in leather and through roleplaying as a lost delivery driver, but if that is what you're into, then be proud of it.

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Where to find tasty Mexican food in Chico

Matthew Wreden
Staff Writer

Chico is home to a plethora of Mexican food and luckily for students at Chico State, it has plenty of walk-in restaurants and taco stands that serve incredible food close to campus.

A great thing about Mexican food around town is that most of it is very affordable so most college students can enjoy it. Here are my top three places to order Mexican food near the Chico State area.

My number one choice for getting Mexican food would be Fiesta Taco located at 933 Nord Ave. It's about a seven minute walk from campus. This taco truck is placed between Star Liquors, China House and Everyday Vietnamese Cuisine.

This is my favorite place because the food is delicious and you can get a lot for a good price. I always order the fiesta burrito which gives you a massive tortilla stuffed with rice, beans, meat, cheese, lettuce and sour cream for \$6.85.

I recommend getting it with spicy sauce because it takes it to another level. If you are not sweating while eating Mexican food, you are absolutely doing it wrong.

I have also ordered their taco combo which comes with two tacos and a large side of rice and beans for only \$5.

My second choice is Taqueria Ramirez. I ordered three carne asada tacos from the taqueria located on 409 Nord Ave., about a 10 minute walk from campus.

The tacos were little bursts of meat, onions, cilantro and salsa on top. Everything was evenly dispersed in two small tortillas and it was very tasty.

I enjoyed the red hot salsa on top the most. It definitely has a kick and makes them very flavorful.

My third choice is located very close to campus. Tacos Mary is a walk-in restaurant at 429 Ivy St. across from Riley's and definitely gets the most traffic from students.



THE ORION | MATTHEW WREDEN
(Top) The tacos at Taqueria Ramirez are only \$1 and are very delicious and spicy. (Bottom) The burrito at Tacos Tonaya No. 2 is solid, and I recommend getting the chips and salsa with your order.

I like to order the California burrito which comes with fries, beans, cheese, sour cream, salsa and meat. The sauce in the burrito is mild.

The California burrito is definitely different but how can you go wrong with fries in your burrito? This meal was definitely the most expensive at \$11.15. You do get a large burrito and a fair share of all the ingredients.

Honorable Mention goes to Tacos Tonaya #2. This is a walk-in restaurant located at 244 Walnut St., about an 8 minute walk from campus.

I would have put them in my top three but the burrito is nothing special. It is your standard burrito and no real hot sauce is included.

I ordered the supreme burrito and I recommend ordering the chips and salsa because you get a lot for the price. You can drizzle the sauce from the chips if you want to on the burrito. It is a much milder sauce and has a good taste.

Overall, the Mexican food around Chico State is top notch and they have a lot to offer students.

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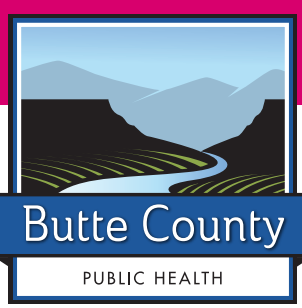
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Valentine movies perfect to cuddle to

Elijah Ewing
Staff Writer

You've already done all the hard work, finding the perfect date, finding an open table for dinner on Valentine's Day and now you've made it back to your place. But there's one grueling task ahead of you; picking a movie to watch.

Although it seems simple, with all the streaming services' vast selection of movies to choose from, here's some tips for how to make a quick educated movie selection.

♥♥ Never pick a great movie. Although it seems counter intuitive, picking a great movie may have you both glued to the screen more than each other.

♥♥ If your movie turns into background sound, make sure the movie you pick has a good soundtrack. It's also best to avoid movies with a lot of loud action sequences, they can be distracting and aren't conducive to a Valentine's Day mood.

♥♥ It's never a bad idea to be prepared and have some movies saved beforehand. You don't have to stick with your saved movies but having some suggestions at the start is never a bad idea.

Now that you know some of guidelines for picking a good Valentine's Day movie, here are some of the movies I may watch with my valentine:



ILLUSTRATION BY | MELISSA JOSEPH

♥♥ "Failure to Launch" (Hulu/Prime) An easygoing rom-com movie about a middle-aged man (Matthew McConaughey) still living at home and his parents hire an expert (Sarah Jessica Parker) to motivate him to move out.

♥♥ "Hitch" (Hulu/Netflix) A single man (Kevin James) hires a dating consultant (Will Smith) to help him find a partner. The movie is full of hilarious situations that will have you and your date laughing for sure.

♥♥ "Murder Mystery" (Netflix) This Netflix original shows a New York Cop (Adam Sandler) and a mystery novel-loving wife (Jennifer Aniston) becoming sucked into a convoluted murder plot during their late honeymoon. Adam Sandler is full of hilarious dad jokes in this twisted comedy.

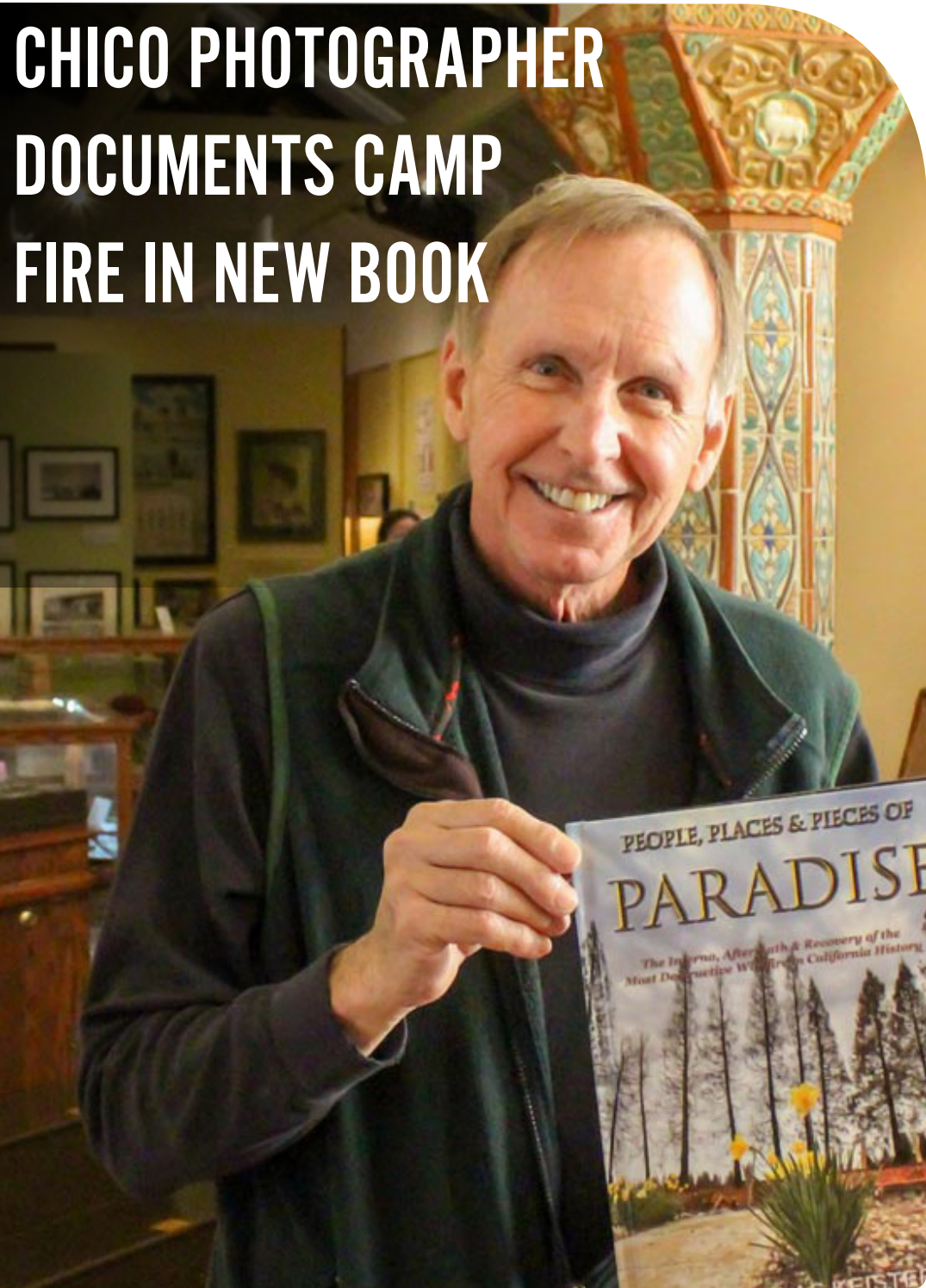
♥♥ "We Are Your Friends" (Netflix) Zach Efron is an aspiring DJ from California trying to make it big. The movie shows how he tries to balance his love life, friends and passion, with added drama along the way. This movie has a good soundtrack and will leave you feeling inspired.

If you're feeling adventurous, there's also a huge selection of great scary movies across all streaming services. "Cabin in the Woods" (Hulu/Prime) puts an interesting twist on classic scary movies. Another great scary movie is "Paranormal Activity" (Netflix), that will for sure have you snuggled next to your valentine.

Instead of looking through streaming services for half an hour, aimlessly looking through Netflix, use these tips to find yourself a good movie, and you may get to watch a sequel.

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CHICO PHOTOGRAPHER DOCUMENTS CAMP FIRE IN NEW BOOK



PHOTOS BY | ALEX COBA

Douglas Keister showcasing his book "People, Places & Pieces of Paradise " at the Chico History Museum.

Melissa Joseph
Staff Writer

One year and three months ago, Butte County experienced a disaster that caused an everlasting impression on thousands of lives. Local photographer and author, Douglas Keister, watched as the community he photographed for years, morphed into a gaunt carcass of his beloved home.

Saturday morning at the Chico History Museum, Keister shared his book "People, Places and Pieces of Paradise" and the approach he took to represent not only the fire, but the aftermath and recovery as well.

Keister knew he had to represent the community and validate their experiences through visual expressions.

"I knew I had to do it. I couldn't let something that was just ten miles up the hill go unnoticed," Keister said. "It was impossible for me not to and I'd regret it if I didn't. Everything that's familiar is gone. Even when you go back to your place, it's not the same. Nothing is familiar anymore, but you spent your whole life there," Keister said.

He projected pictures of the slow development of clearing debris and the emptiness that laid in wake of the fire. Delving deeper into the lives and

experiences of those affected, Keister began to realize that he was taking more than photos, he was encapsulating the experiences of a broken community.

"When you start interviewing people, whether you know them or not, it starts to sink in and you wonder what it would be like to wake up in the morning and have nothing," Keister said.

The audience watched as pictures of their own neighborhoods displayed on the screen, knowing that they too had experienced the traumatic events he photographed. A board member for the Chico History Museum, Dave Nobel, felt similarly as he viewed the narrative of Keister's photographs.

"To pick up the pieces and begin to recover and rebuild, had brought a lot of questions...yet things still seem to move ahead," Nobel said.

Keister offers a glimpse at hope and recovery to the people of Butte County through his theatrical photographs in "People, Places and Pieces of Paradise."

Keister's book can be found at local Chico and Paradise locations including Paradise Ace Hardware, Bird in Hand, and Made in Chico.

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PHOTOS BY | DANIELLE KESSLER

(Top) Moon Medicinals, had a setup full of candles, and other natural occurring healing properties. (Middle) Loomchi had some cute handmade plant holders at the pop-up. (Bottom) Clothing brand, American Happy also had some vintage clothes for sale.

Valentine's pop-up spreads love and art

Danielle Kessler
Staff Writer

The 1078 Gallery hosted a Valentine's Day pop-up shop on Feb. 9, to celebrate local female artists and the importance of self-love.

Vendors and art at the event included glass blowing, fiber art and hand-made fashion pieces.

Marisa Segovia, a local print making and glass blowing artist, helped organize the shop and wanted to celebrate local artists of all skill sets.

"Today is a pop-up that a couple of us threw together, it has seven women vendors," Segovia said. "Everything is really unique. We have crystal magic, a woman who is face painting and another lady who is selling her hand-made porcelain."

Segovia also explained that the Valentine-themed event was made to focus on all types of love, including non-romantic love.

"We wanted to do something for the public that wasn't necessarily just built toward (having) a lover, but for everybody; your friends, your family, everyone," Segovia said.

Among the vendors present at the gallery, was Julie Demagio, the founder of a new clothing brand called American Happy.

"We just started American Happy in November," Demagio said. "There's a lot of stuff on the website, but we're just starting to get our feet wet ... it's refashioned, vintage, secondhand clothing."

"The goal is to be able to work with other artists and makers to do a collection for American Happy," Demagio said. "We want to be sustainable, we want to be responsible, we're trying to set up a social responsibility section so that as we gain profits, we can be donating to local causes that we believe in."

Other vendors included Loomchi, a fiber art shop, Moon Medicinals, which specializes in crystal magic, and local Chico artist, MsJenAmaze.

Segovia wanted to emphasize the idea of supporting locally made art, and the idea that love comes in many forms and shared this piece of advice,

"Don't be afraid to love yourself, you guys are all worth it and you deserve everything, just love yourself and everything will fall into place."



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